From: Domenech, Douglas

To: Nancy Guiden; Scott Hommel; Daniel Jorjani; James Cason: Megan Bloomgren; Mashburn, Lori

Subject: Cabinet Affairs Report for 3/13/17

Date: Monday, March 13, 2017 1:41:24 PM

Attachments: DOI DAILY UPDATE FOR CABINET AFFAIRS 3-13-17.docx

Attached and Copied Below.

DOI DAILY UPDATE FOR CABINET AFFAIRS – 3/13/17

Doug Domenech, Senior Advisor

Status of the Nominee

The Secretary will be in the office Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of this week.

The Secretary will resume his travel in Montana and Wyoming Thursday, Friday, Saturday.

HEADS UP: Major Sportsman Conservation Announcement POSSIBLE POTUS

ANNOUCEMENT. In mid-to-late March, the Department of the Interior will announce the distribution of \$1.1 billion in revenues generated by the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration acts to states, territories and District of Columbia. The funding, which supports critical state wildlife conservation and recreation projects throughout the nation, is generated by excise taxes on firearms, ammunition, fishing equipment and motorboat fuels paid by the hunting, shooting, boating and angling industries. The money goes to states. Interior is inquiring whether there is interest in coordinating the announcement.

Executive Orders

The Department is awaiting:

EO on Energy (several?)

EO on National Monuments

Potential Announcement: "Secretary Zinke Reverses Decision that Denied Atlantic Seismic G&G Permits -- New Directive Allows Consideration of Permit Applications to Continue."

Will this conflict with any upcoming EO?

NO CHANGE: The Department is preparing plans to release these energy related

Actions

Secretarial Orders and Memoranda on:

- Secretarial Order: Revocation of the Federal Coal Moratorium
- Reopening National Petroleum Reserve Alaska
- Reinitiating Quarterly Onshore Leasing Program
- Lifting Moratoriums on Offshore Energy
- Restarting a new Five Year OCS Plan
- Financial Assurance Notice to Lessees (NTL) Policy Review
- Well Control Rule Withdrawal
- Offshore Air Rule
- Atlantic Seismic Survey Activities
- Endangered Species Act Review and Reform
- Reverse Compensatory Mitigation
- National Monuments: Review

Congressional Action Under the CRA (No change)

CRAs: Pending WH Action.

• BLM Planning 2.0 Rule. (b)(5) DPP

CRAs: Passed the House, Pending in the Senate.

- BLM Venting and Flaring Methane Rule
- FWS H.J.Res.69 Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the final rule of the Department of the Interior relating to "Non-Subsistence Take of Wildlife, and Public Participation and Closure Procedures, on National Wildlife Refuges in Alaska".

Secretary Meetings and Schedule

Monday March 13 to 15: The Secretary will be in DC.

Thursday March 16: Bozeman. Potential BUDGET media.

Friday: Bozeman/Yellowstone. Press conference in front of arch announcing historic park visitation. Meeting with Yellowstone National Park about maintenance backlog and bison management issues.

| Saturday March 18: Meeting with Sen. Murkowski in Bozeman area. |
|---|
| Sunday: Fly to DC |
| Further out. |
| 3/31: Participate in the 100 th Commemoration of the purchase of the Virgin Islands from Denmark. The Danish Prime Minister will participate. |
| (b)(5) DPP |
| |
| |
| Emergency Management |
| In North Dakota, clean-up activity on the former Sacred Stone and Black Hoop campsites is nearing completion. All Non-BIA Federal law enforcement officers departed Standing Rock on March 10, while some BIA law enforcement officers will remain at Standing Rock through the end of the month or until the Office of Justice Services determines that there is no longer need. |
| Media |

HEADS UP: Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Settlement. On April 4, 2017, per the terms of the 2016 Deepwater Horizon Consent Decree, BP is scheduled to make the first of 15 annual payments to the DOI Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration (NRDAR) Fund. This \$489,655,172 payment will be allocated among seven sub-accounts - Open Ocean, Region-wide, and one for each affected State (AL, FL, LA, MS, and TX). These and all future settlement funds will be disbursed as directed by the co-trustees in accordance with publicly-reviewed restoration plans.

Visiting Glacier National Park, Secretary Zinke Vows To Reorganize Department For 21st Century.

The Flathead (MT) Beacon (3/10, Franz) reports that Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke's first official trip from Washington D.C. was to Glacier National Park on March 10. Zinke met with National Park Service employees "to talk about his hopes and goals for the next four years." According to the article, "chief among those priorities is a '21st century reorganization' of the Department of Interior." He said, "We need to be bold and look at what the Department of Interior will be 100 years from now."

Bishop Concerned About Slow Pace Of Nomination Of Lower-Level Agency Officials.

The "Morning Energy" blog of Politico (3/10, Adragna) reported House Natural Resources Chairman Rob Bishop is "among the lawmakers fed up with the Trump administration's failure to nominate more lower-level agency officials." Bishop told Politico, "I am frustrated at the pace of how this is moving. ... They need to get on with this so they can start dealing with policy issues." Sen. Lisa Murkowski "reiterated her own frustrations with the process at DOE and Interior one day after an Oval Office meeting with Trump." Of Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke, Murkowski said, "He's very anxious to get his folks up before the committee for confirmation. ... We've got a lot that we expect him to do, as we expect of [Energy] Secretary [Rick] Perry, but they need their people. It's slow. It's frustratingly slow."

Federal Agencies Blasted For Twin Metals Decisions. The Minneapolis Star Tribune (3/11, Loon, Melander), Doug Loon, president of the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce, Harry Melander, president of the Minnesota State Building and Construction Trades Council, write that the decisions by the U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management on a mine proposed by Twin Metals Minnesota." dealt two sharp blows to regional economic and job creation efforts supported by a broad coalition of labor, industry and community members." They call the moves an "arbitrary action" that "renders irrelevant the rigorous, longstanding public process in place to review environmental and other effects of development proposals under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and equally tough state statutes." They also note that "a new era of copper-nickel mining and other potential projects in the withdrawal area would bring thousands of high-paying, long-term mining jobs, as well as thousands of spinoff and construction jobs, according to estimates from the University of Minnesota-Duluth."

Editorial: Secretary Zinke Deserves A Chance.

The Seattle Times (3/12) editorializes that "unlike most" Trump Administration cabinet leaders, Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke "respects and appreciates the mission and values of the organization he now leads." The paper expects that "there will be vehement disagreement with some of Zinke's decisions, especially around resource extraction." However, it asserts that Zinke "deserves a chance to prove that he'll manage the agency fairly and follow through on

his pledge to protect America's priceless public assets now under his care."

Four Convicted In Malheur Refuge Standoff Case.

The Wall Street Journal (3/10, Randazzo) reports four men who participated in the armed takeover of an Oregon wildlife refuge were found guilty on Friday of some charges, but not all of them on the most serious charges of conspiracy to obstruct government workers. The Journal says that Jason Patrick and Darryl Thorn were found guilt of felony conspiracy and that Thorn was also found guilty of weapons possession in a federal facility. Jake Ryan and Duane Ehmer were found guilty of charge of depredation of government property.

White House Communications Report

Inquiries

- Local/regional coverage of Secretary Zinke's trip to Montana. He got the following questions from local reporters in gaggle at Glacier National Park: (1) what do you see as future of federal law enforcement (standard answer plus DOI did a phenomenal job at SRST), (2) you're open to climate change but greater admin is not. How do you reassure your employees? (I believe in sound science. we have best scientists in the world I look to them to create stronger models and make recommendations), and (3) explain reorganization (100 years out, creative use of technology, get young people in the parks).
- WSJ (Jim Carlton) writing on efforts by Utah politicians to get President Trump to rescind or greatly reduce the new Bears Ears National Monument. I just spoke with Congressman Chaffetz and he said he has put that request in to the president personally, and has invited Secretary Zinke out to Utah to tour the land and meet. Can I get a comment on what Mr. Zinke thinks of this issue? Does he plan to visit Bears Ears and, if so, when? Response: will draft statement and circulate.
- Washington Times (Ben Wolfgang) Are there any plans at Interior to revisit the King Cove road issue? As far as I know, this whole thing has been dormant since former Secretary Jewell decided against the road in December 2013. Is the Secretary open to reexamining it? Why or why not?

Top Stories

• Slate: Ryan Zinke is Having a Blast as Interior Secretary

Top Issues and Accomplishments

- Updated Zinke travel advisory issued this afternoon. Secretary Zinke will no longer address the Montana legislature and travel to Denver, Colorado next week. He is returning to Washington due to schedule changes (for us only for the Cabinet meeting, CRA signing and budget announcement).
- National Park Service will now next Friday release more than 300 pages of correspondence/emails regarding tweets/social media on Inauguration Day. Final remaining images under FOIA of inauguration photos (that were mistakenly not posted earlier this week) will also be posted.
- Two members of the Bundy family were convicted today of conspiracy regarding the occupation and standoff at the Department of the Interior Fish & Wildlife managed Malheur National Wildlife Refuge in Oregon in 2016.
- Next week, the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management will recommend approval of permits to conduct seismic studies on the potential of Atlantic Ocean energy resources.

Federal Register Notices Cleared for Publishing (None Significant)

Items cleared for the Federal Register on Thursday.

REG0006836 FWS Receipt of Application for Incidental Take Permit; Low Effect Habitat Conservation Plan for California Flats Solar Project Operations and Maintenance Activities, Monterey San Luis Obispo Counties, CA This notice is necessary to make our receipt of an application and Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) available for public comment on the Service's proposed issuance of an Incidental Take Permit under the ESA for the 30-year operation and maintenance of the California Flats Solar Project. Notice 03/10/2017

REG0006826 NPS Notice of Open Meetings for the National Park Service Alaska Region Subsistence Resource Commission program NPS is giving notice that the Cape Krusenstern National Monument subsistence resource commission (SRC), Kobuk Valley National Park SRC, and Gates of the Arctic National Park SRC will hold public meetings to develop and continue work on NPS subsistence program recommendations, and other related regulatory proposals and resource management issues. Notice 03/10/2017

Doug Domenech Senior Advisor US Department of the Interior

DOI DAILY UPDATE FOR CABINET AFFAIRS - 3/13/17

Doug Domenech, Senior Advisor

Status of the Nominee

The Secretary will be in the office Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of this week. The Secretary will resume his travel in Montana and Wyoming Thursday, Friday, Saturday.

HEADS UP: Major Sportsman Conservation Announcement POSSIBLE POTUS ANNOUCEMENT. In midto-late March, the Department of the Interior will announce the distribution of \$1.1 billion in revenues generated by the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration acts to states, territories and District of Columbia. The funding, which supports critical state wildlife conservation and recreation projects throughout the nation, is generated by excise taxes on firearms, ammunition, fishing equipment and motorboat fuels paid by the hunting, shooting, boating and angling industries. The money goes to states. Interior is inquiring whether there is interest in coordinating the announcement.

Executive Orders

The Department is awaiting: EO on Energy (several?) EO on National Monuments

<u>Potential Announcement</u>: "Secretary Zinke Reverses Decision that Denied Atlantic Seismic G&G Permits -- New Directive Allows Consideration of Permit Applications to Continue." Will this conflict with any upcoming EO?

NO CHANGE: The Department is preparing plans to release these energy related Actions

Secretarial Orders and Memoranda on:

- Secretarial Order: Revocation of the Federal Coal Moratorium
- Reopening National Petroleum Reserve Alaska
- Reinitiating Quarterly Onshore Leasing Program
- Lifting Moratoriums on Offshore Energy
- Restarting a new Five Year OCS Plan
- Financial Assurance Notice to Lessees (NTL) Policy Review
- Well Control Rule Withdrawal
- Offshore Air Rule
- Atlantic Seismic Survey Activities
- Endangered Species Act Review and Reform
- Reverse Compensatory Mitigation
- National Monuments: Review

<u>Congressional Action Under the CRA</u> (No change)

CRAs: Pending WH Action.

BLM Planning 2.0 Rule. (b)(5) DPP

CRAs: Passed the House, Pending in the Senate.BLM Venting and Flaring Methane Rule

• FWS H.J.Res.69 - Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the final rule of the Department of the Interior relating to "Non-Subsistence Take of Wildlife, and Public Participation and Closure Procedures, on National Wildlife Refuges in Alaska".

Secretary Meetings and Schedule

Monday March 13 to 15: The Secretary will be in DC.

Thursday March 16: Bozeman. Potential BUDGET media.

Friday: Bozeman/Yellowstone. Press conference in front of arch announcing historic park visitation. Meeting with Yellowstone National Park about maintenance backlog and bison management issues.

Saturday March 18: Meeting with Sen. Murkowski in Bozeman area.

Sunday: Fly to DC

Further out.

3/31: Participate in the 100th Commemoration of the purchase of the Virgin Islands from Denmark. The Danish Prime Minister will participate.



Emergency Management

<u>In North Dakota,</u> clean-up activity on the former Sacred Stone and Black Hoop campsites is nearing completion. All Non-BIA Federal law enforcement officers departed Standing Rock on March 10, while some BIA law enforcement officers will remain at Standing Rock through the end of the month or until the Office of Justice Services determines that there is no longer need.

Media

HEADS UP: Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Settlement. On April 4, 2017, per the terms of the 2016 Deepwater Horizon Consent Decree, BP is scheduled to make the first of 15 annual payments to the DOI Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration (NRDAR) Fund. This \$489,655,172 payment will be allocated among seven sub-accounts - Open Ocean, Region-wide, and one for each affected State (AL, FL, LA, MS, and TX). These and all future settlement funds will be disbursed as directed by the cotrustees in accordance with publicly-reviewed restoration plans.

Visiting Glacier National Park, Secretary Zinke Vows To Reorganize Department For 21st Century. The Flathead (MT) Beacon (3/10, Franz) reports that Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke's first official trip from Washington D.C. was to Glacier National Park on March 10. Zinke met with National Park Service employees "to talk about his hopes and goals for the next four years." According to the article, "chief

among those priorities is a '21st century reorganization' of the Department of Interior." He said, "We need to be bold and look at what the Department of Interior will be 100 years from now."

Bishop Concerned About Slow Pace Of Nomination Of Lower-Level Agency Officials.

The "Morning Energy" blog of Politico (3/10, Adragna) reported House Natural Resources Chairman Rob Bishop is "among the lawmakers fed up with the Trump administration's failure to nominate more lower-level agency officials." Bishop told Politico, "I am frustrated at the pace of how this is moving. … They need to get on with this so they can start dealing with policy issues." Sen. Lisa Murkowski "reiterated her own frustrations with the process at DOE and Interior one day after an Oval Office meeting with Trump." Of Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke, Murkowski said, "He's very anxious to get his folks up before the committee for confirmation. … We've got a lot that we expect him to do, as we expect of [Energy] Secretary [Rick] Perry, but they need their people. It's slow. It's frustratingly slow."

Federal Agencies Blasted For Twin Metals Decisions. The Minneapolis Star Tribune (3/11, Loon, Melander), Doug Loon, president of the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce, Harry Melander, president of the Minnesota State Building and Construction Trades Council, write that the decisions by the U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management on a mine proposed by Twin Metals Minnesota."dealt two sharp blows to regional economic and job creation efforts supported by a broad coalition of labor, industry and community members." They call the moves an "arbitrary action" that "renders irrelevant the rigorous, longstanding public process in place to review environmental and other effects of development proposals under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and equally tough state statutes." They also note that "a new era of copper-nickel mining and other potential projects in the withdrawal area would bring thousands of high-paying, long-term mining jobs, as well as thousands of spinoff and construction jobs, according to estimates from the University of Minnesota-Duluth."

Editorial: Secretary Zinke Deserves A Chance.

The Seattle Times (3/12) editorializes that "unlike most" Trump Administration cabinet leaders, Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke "respects and appreciates the mission and values of the organization he now leads." The paper expects that "there will be vehement disagreement with some of Zinke's decisions, especially around resource extraction." However, it asserts that Zinke "deserves a chance to prove that he'll manage the agency fairly and follow through on his pledge to protect America's priceless public assets now under his care."

Four Convicted In Malheur Refuge Standoff Case.

The Wall Street Journal (3/10, Randazzo) reports four men who participated in the armed takeover of an Oregon wildlife refuge were found guilty on Friday of some charges, but not all of them on the most serious charges of conspiracy to obstruct government workers. The Journal says that Jason Patrick and Darryl Thorn were found guilt of felony conspiracy and that Thorn was also found guilty of weapons possession in a federal facility. Jake Ryan and Duane Ehmer were found guilty of charge of depredation of government property.

White House Communications Report Inquiries

• Local/regional coverage of Secretary Zinke's trip to Montana. He got the following questions from local reporters in gaggle at Glacier National Park: (1) what do you see as future of federal law enforcement (standard answer plus DOI did a phenomenal job at SRST), (2) you're open to climate change but greater admin is not. How do you reassure your employees? (I believe in sound science. we have best scientists in the world I look to them to create stronger models and make

recommendations), and (3) explain reorganization (100 years out, creative use of technology, get young people in the parks).

- WSJ (Jim Carlton) writing on efforts by Utah politicians to get President Trump to rescind or greatly reduce the new Bears Ears National Monument. I just spoke with Congressman Chaffetz and he said he has put that request in to the president personally, and has invited Secretary Zinke out to Utah to tour the land and meet. Can I get a comment on what Mr. Zinke thinks of this issue? Does he plan to visit Bears Ears and, if so, when? Response: will draft statement and circulate.
- Washington Times (Ben Wolfgang) Are there any plans at Interior to revisit the King Cove road issue? As far as I know, this whole thing has been dormant since former Secretary Jewell decided against the road in December 2013. Is the Secretary open to re-examining it? Why or why not?

Top Stories

• Slate: Ryan Zinke is Having a Blast as Interior Secretary

Top Issues and Accomplishments

- Updated Zinke travel advisory issued this afternoon. Secretary Zinke will no longer address the Montana legislature and travel to Denver, Colorado next week. He is returning to Washington due to schedule changes (for us only for the Cabinet meeting, CRA signing and budget announcement).
- National Park Service will now next Friday release more than 300 pages of correspondence/emails regarding tweets/social media on Inauguration Day. Final remaining images under FOIA of inauguration photos (that were mistakenly not posted earlier this week) will also be posted.
- Two members of the Bundy family were convicted today of conspiracy regarding the occupation and standoff at the Department of the Interior Fish & Wildlife managed Malheur National Wildlife Refuge in Oregon in 2016.
- Next week, the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management will recommend approval of permits to conduct seismic studies on the potential of Atlantic Ocean energy resources.

Federal Register Notices Cleared for Publishing (None Significant)

Items cleared for the Federal Register on Thursday.

REG0006836 FWS Receipt of Application for Incidental Take Permit; Low Effect Habitat Conservation Plan for California Flats Solar Project Operations and Maintenance Activities, Monterey San Luis Obispo Counties, CA This notice is necessary to make our receipt of an application and Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) available for public comment on the Service's proposed issuance of an Incidental Take Permit under the ESA for the 30-year operation and maintenance of the California Flats Solar Project. Notice 03/10/2017

REG0006826 NPS Notice of Open Meetings for the National Park Service Alaska Region
Subsistence Resource Commission program NPS is giving notice that the Cape Krusenstern National
Monument subsistence resource commission (SRC), Kobuk Valley National Park SRC, and Gates of the
Arctic National Park SRC will hold public meetings to develop and continue work on NPS subsistence

program recommendations, and other related regulatory proposals and resource management issues. Notice 03/10/2017